

GATOR WATERWORKS, INC.

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 20190114-WU

**APPLICATION OF GATOR WATERWORKS, INC. FOR A STAFF-
ASSISTED RATE CASE IN ALACHUA COUNTY**

AFFIRMATION OF MAILING

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF PASCO

This statement submitted on October 25, 2019, affirms that the attached Customer Meeting Notice for the Staff Assisted Rate Case was mailed via US mail service to the customers of Gator Waterworks, Inc.



Troy Rendell
Vice President
Investor Owned Utilities
// for Gator Waterworks, Inc.

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

NOTICE OF CUSTOMER MEETING

TO THE CUSTOMERS OF GATOR WATERWORKS, INC.

AND

ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS

DOCKET NO. 20190114-WU

APPLICATION OF GATOR WATERWORKS, INC.

FOR A STAFF-ASSISTED RATE CASE IN

ALACHUA COUNTY

Date Issued: October 23, 2019

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staff of the Florida Public Service Commission (Commission) will conduct a customer meeting to discuss Gator Waterworks, Inc.'s (Gator or utility) application for a staff-assisted rate case (SARC) in Alachua County. The meeting will be held at the following time and place:

Wednesday, November 13, 2019, at 5:00 P.M.

Headquarters Branch Library
401 East University Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32601

All persons who wish to comment are urged to be present at the beginning of the meeting, since the meeting may be adjourned early if no customers are present. One or more Commissioners of the Commission may attend and participate in this meeting. The meeting will begin as scheduled and will continue until all the customers have been heard.

If a named storm or other disaster requires cancellation of the meeting, Commission staff will attempt to give timely direct notice to the parties. Notice of the cancellation of the meeting will also be provided on the Commission's website (<http://www.psc.state.fl.us/>) under the Hot Topics link found on the home page. Cancellation can also be confirmed by calling the Commission's Office of the General Counsel at (850) 413-6199.

Any person requiring some accommodation at the customer meeting because of a physical impairment should call the Office of Commission Clerk at (850) 413-6770 at least five calendar days prior to the meeting. Any person who is hearing or speech impaired should contact the Commission by using the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

PURPOSE

The purpose of this meeting is to give customers and other interested persons an opportunity to offer comments to Commission staff regarding the quality of service the utility provides, the recommended rate increase, and to ask questions and comment on staff's preliminary rates included in this notice as well as other issues. Staff members will summarize Gator's filing, the preliminary work accomplished, and answer questions to the extent possible. A representative from the utility has also been invited to respond to questions.

At the beginning of the meeting, procedures will be established for the order of comments. Commission staff will have sign-up sheets, and customers will be called to speak in the order that they sign up. Staff will be available to coordinate customers' comments and to assist members of the public.

Any person who wishes to comment or provide information to staff may do so at the meetings, orally or in writing. Written comments may also be sent to the Commission at the address given at the end of this notice. Your letter will be placed in the correspondence file of this docket. You may also submit comments through the Commission's toll-free facsimile line at 1-800-511-0809 or online at <https://secure.floridapsc.com/ClerkOffice/EfilingPublic>.

BACKGROUND

Gator is a Class C utility serving approximately 331 residential water customers and 4 general service customers in Alachua County. The utility has never had a staff-assisted rate case before the Commission. According to Gator's 2018 annual report, total gross revenue was \$47,041 and total operating expense was \$80,178.

The utility began providing water service in 1965 under the name Kincaid Hills Water Company. On June 30, 1992, the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners adopted a resolution, which gave jurisdiction over the regulation of privately-owned water and wastewater utilities to this Commission. On November 18, 1992, Kincaid filed its application for an original certificate to provide water service in Alachua County under grandfather rights, and Certificate No. 555-W was granted by Order No. PSC-93-1027-FOF-WU, issued July 13, 1993.¹ The utility's rates and charges were last approved in the grandfather certificate proceeding. However, the utility's rates have been amended through three price index increases.

Gator purchased Kincaid Hills Water Company on February 23, 2018, and filed an application for Transfer of Certificate on March 12, 2018. By Order No. PSC-2018-0587-PAA-WU, the Commission approved the transfer. On May 13, 2019, Gator filed its application for a staff-assisted rate case. In its application, the utility requested a test year ended March 31, 2019, for interim and final rate purposes.

¹Order No. PSC-93-1027-FOF-WU, issued July 13, 1993, in Docket No. 19921195-WU, *In re: Application for certificate to provide water service in Alachua County under grandfather rights by Kincaid Hills Water Company*.

CURRENT AND PRELIMINARY RATES AND CHARGES

Staff has compiled the following recommended rates for the purpose of discussion at the customer meeting. These rates are preliminary and subject to change based on information gathered at the customer meeting, further staff review, and the final decision by the Commission. The utility’s current and staff’s recommended preliminary rates are as follows:

	RATES AT THE TIME OF FILING	COMMISSION APPROVED INTERIM RATES	STAFF RECOMMENDED RATES
<u>Residential and General Service</u>			
All Meter Sizes	\$6.94	\$9.76	
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size			
5/8"X3/4"			\$14.90
3/4"			\$22.35
1"			\$37.25
1-1/2"			\$74.50
2"			\$119.20
3"			\$238.40
4"			\$372.50
6"			\$745.00
Charge per 1,000 Gallons - Residential			
0-5,000 gallons			\$6.77
5,001-10,000 gallons			\$10.16
Over 10,000 gallons			\$13.54
Charge per 1,000 gallons - General Service	\$0.92	\$1.29	\$7.07
<u>Typical Residential 5/8" x 3/4" Meter Bill Comparison</u>			
5,000 Gallons	\$11.54	\$16.21	\$48.75
8,000 Gallons	\$14.30	\$20.08	\$79.23
10,000 Gallons	\$16.14	\$22.66	\$99.55

STAFF REPORTS AND UTILITY APPLICATION

The results of staff's preliminary investigation are contained in a staff report dated October 18, 2019. Copies of the report may be examined by interested members of the public at the following location:

Headquarters Branch Library
401 East University Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32601

PROCEDURES AFTER CUSTOMER MEETING

After the customer meeting, Commission staff will prepare a recommendation which is tentatively scheduled to be submitted to the Commission on January 23, 2020. The Commission is tentatively scheduled to vote on staff's recommendation at its February 4, 2020 Commission Conference. The Commission will thereafter issue a proposed agency action (PAA) order containing rates which may be different from those contained in staff's final recommendation. Substantially affected persons have 21 days from the date that the PAA order is issued to protest the Commission's PAA order. Customers are able to obtain a copy of staff's recommendation and all documents filed in this docket under the Clerk's Office tab at the Commission's website (<http://www.floridapsc.com/>).

HOW TO CONTACT THE COMMISSION

Any person who wishes to comment or provide information to Commission staff may do so at the meetings, either orally or in writing. Other written comments regarding the utility and the proposed rates, or requests to be placed on the mailing list for this case, may be directed to this address:

Director, Office of Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

All correspondence should refer to "**Docket No. 20190114-WU, GATOR WATERWORKS, INC.**" Your letter will be placed in the correspondence file of this docket. You may also submit comments through the Florida Public Service Commission's email at clerk@psc.state.fl.us, or the Commission's website available at <https://secure.floridapsc.com/ClerkOffice/EfilingPublic>.

If you wish to contact the Florida Public Service Commission regarding complaints about service, you may call the Commission's Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach at the following toll-free number: 1-800-342-3552.